

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP)
AND NEW FEDERAL STUDENT GROUPS REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
May 2, 2011

Background

States are required to use the seven mutually exclusive race/ethnicity categories for reporting aggregate data to the U.S. Department of Education. Beginning with the school year 2010-11, Montana school districts began to use these categories to report individual-level and aggregate data to the Office of Public Instruction (OPI):

1. Hispanic/Latino of any race
2. American Indian or Alaska Native who are not Hispanic/Latino
3. Asian who are not Hispanic/Latino
4. Black or African American who are not Hispanic/Latino
5. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander who are not Hispanic/Latino
6. White who are not Hispanic/Latino
7. Two or more races (includes all who chose more than one race and are not Hispanic/Latino)

However, states have the discretion to continue to use the six race/ethnicity code categories used in the past for calculating the AYP Reports which are:

1. American Indian or Alaska Native
2. Asian
3. Black or African American
4. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
5. White
6. Hispanic

In calculating AYP, the previous three years of data are used for purposes of examining whether student groups achieved Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) targets.

The OPI developed a method to assign a race/ethnicity for all students which "bridges backwards" the required new method to assign race/ethnicity code categories to all students. Because schools and districts reported race/ethnicity based on the seven categories for one year and six categories for the previous two years, this method assigns this year's students to one of the six categories used in previous years (bridge backwards). To complete the bridging backward method, the OPI will use "Largest Group Other Than White" rule. This rule assigns the responses for the 2010-11 school year that include the White code category and another racial group to the appropriate group from the six category criteria. Responses including two or more racial groups other than White are assigned to the group with the highest single race count.

Example of Bridging Backward, Fiscal Year 2011, October Collection					
American Indian	Asian	Black	Hawaiian	White	Would be Calculated as
TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	American Indian
FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	Black
FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	Asian
TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	American Indian
FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	Hawaiian
TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	American Indian
TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	American Indian
TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	American Indian
FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	Black
TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	American Indian
TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	American Indian

Race/Ethnicity Category Change

Schools and districts should be aware that this new method has the potential to create more student groups in the race/ethnicity category than previously experienced. For instance, if a school had 29 Hispanic students enrolled in 2010 and an additional student has since changed his/her race code category to include Hispanic plus two or more races, this student will be coded Hispanic and the school's total Hispanic student group would equal to 30, the minimum "n." In this instance the school/district's AYP calculation will include the addition of a Hispanic group because this group now meets the minimum "n."

Schools and districts are urged to be aware of this for purposes of this year's AYP calculation. Please contact OPI for assistance and information.



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